



## **2018 CALL FOR MASTERS RESEARCH PROPOSALS**

### **Research Guidelines**

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### **1. BACKGROUND**

In response to the current imperative by the New Government towards linking research and development, the Environmental Management Agency (EMA), under the auspices of the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate, has taken this initiative to engage local universities in environmental research. The Agency is mandated to regulate, monitor and promote sustainable management of natural resources and the protection of the environment with stakeholder participation.

In this regard, EMA invites research proposals focusing on the research themes below. By supporting postgraduate students who will be conducting researches in these thematic areas, EMA intends to advance its evidence-based policy and programmatic interventions for the benefit of country. The purpose of this Call for Proposals is, therefore, to support 20 eligible University Masters Degree students in their research projects. The research will be sponsored to tune of US\$1 000.00 per student. The call will be awarded on a competitive basis.

### **2. Research Themes**

Focus should be in an area that addresses current and emerging environmental issues in Zimbabwe. These areas include, **ecosystem protection, veld fire management, invasive alien species, hazardous substances, wetland management, ecosystems economic evaluation, e-waste management, land rehabilitation, Soil erosion, pollution science (land, water and air pollution),solid waste management, environmental law enforcement, environmental awareness, public knowledge and behavior change on the environment.**

### **3. Eligibility and Conditions for Support**

To be eligible, applicants should be able to conduct environmental research and demonstrate knowledge of topical environmental management issues being experienced in Zimbabwe. The call is open to all students from local universities. Both MPhil and MSc students are eligible to apply and the latter should have passed their coursework. The research must have been approved by the University and have an allocated research supervisor. Female candidates are strongly advised to apply.

The following conditions will apply:

- a) Co-ownership of the research results;
- b) Evidence that the student is registered with a local University supported by an approval from the student's institution to carry out the research; and
- c) Endorsement of the research proposal by the supervisor and commitment that the supervisor will be ready to supervise the student's research.

### **4. PROPOSAL GUIDELINES**

The proposal should be presented in a clear structure guided by the following headings:

- i. Research Title
- ii. Introduction
- iii. Statement of the Problem
- iv. Research Objectives
- v. Research Questions/Hypotheses
- vi. Significance of the Study
- vii. Research Methodology
- viii. Timeframes
- ix. Budget and Budget Justification

### **5. PROCESSING OF PROPOSALS**

- The evaluation and selection of proposals will comprise verification of the proposal eligibility.
- Confidential peer review of the proposals by experts.
- Short listing of reviewed research proposals.
- Communicating results and funding decisions to applicants by 30 September 2018.
- The decision by EMA will be final.

## 6. RESEARCH GRANT

The research will be sponsored to a tune of US\$1 000.00 per student. This amount will cover field work, laboratory analysis or data processing and analysis activities.

## 7. SUBMISSION

All documents (application form, full research proposal, annexes, etc.) have to be submitted as PDF and MS Word files to [nnondo@ema.co.zw](mailto:nnondo@ema.co.zw) and copied to [epm@ema.co.zw](mailto:epm@ema.co.zw) with the following email subject line "2018 EMA MASTERS RESEARCH CALL FOR PROPOSALS". The deadline for submission of applications is 14 September 2018 and results will be communicated by the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2018.

## 8. CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit [www.ema.co.zw](http://www.ema.co.zw) to access the detailed **Application Guidelines** and **Application Form**. For any queries or additional information, call: Tel. 08677006244